



Department of Family Services

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Grants Management Advisory Committee
c/o Laurie Olson
4126 Technology Way, Suite 100
Carson City, Nevada 89706

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express the support of the Clark County Department of Family Services for Title XX funding allocations to be made toward crisis intervention services.

While DFS has not formally been involved in the review/selection of the grant proposals, it is our understanding that approximately \$270,000 in funding historically allocated for crisis intervention services may be redirected to parent education/training programs.

We clearly value parent education/training programs, and operate several such programs funded by Title XX within the department. However, we also support a balanced approach to funding allocation across program and support areas. Crisis intervention services, such as those provided by Boys Town Nevada, help to support family preservation and reunification services, and work to minimize the involvement of child welfare service agencies in the lives of children and families. These services are not well-funded outside of the State grant process, and as such that process becomes even more critical to the maintenance of these services.

Boys Town Nevada currently receives a Title XX grant in the amount of \$410,153 to provide crisis intervention services in Clark County. Boys Town Nevada and DFS have established a solid collaborative relationship to ensure a safety network for children and families. The primary limitation of the existing program has been an on-going wait list due to the program operating at funding/service capacity. If Boys Town Nevada funding is eliminated, it will result in the loss of services to 100 families annually, impacting the safety and stability of more than 250 children.

We understand that funding is limited and that there are many tough choices to be made in how funding is allocated, but we would encourage the committee to reconsider funding proposals that were related to crisis intervention services in order to maintain a well-balanced approach to the types of services available to children and families in Southern Nevada.

Sincerely,

Lisa Ruiz-Lee, Director
Department of Family Services

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